

OVERSIGHT—NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS SYSTEM

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management held an oversight hearing on The National Preparedness System: What are we preparing for? Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: Corey D. Gruber, Associate Director, Office for Domestic Preparedness; and Gil Jamieson, Director, NIMS Integration Center; and public witnesses.

U.S. CHINA ECONOMIC RELATIONS

Committee on Ways and Means: Held a hearing on United States-China Economic Relations and China's Role in the World Economy. Testimony was heard from Representative Sanders; Kristin J. Forbes, member, Council of Economic Advisers; Charles W. Freeman, III, Assistant U.S. Trade Representative, China Affairs; Douglas Holtz-Eakin, Director, CBO; and public witnesses.

TAX SEASON/IRS BUDGET

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing on 2005 Tax Return Filing Season and the IRS Budget for Fiscal Year 2006. Testimony was heard from Mark W. Everson, Commissioner, IRS, Department of the Treasury; James R. White, Director, Tax Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

GLOBAL UPDATES BRIEFING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Global Updates. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

GENERAL DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM BUDGET

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to hold a hearing on General Defense Intelligence Program (GDIP) Budget. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

VETERANS' LEGISLATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs concluded joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine legislative presentations of certain veterans' organizations, after receiving testimony from William A. Boettcher, AMVETS, Lanham, Maryland; James Cooper, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Arlington, Texas; Thomas H. Corey, Vietnam Veterans of America, Silver Spring, Maryland; Colonel Robert F. Norton, USA (Ret.), and John Class, USN (Ret.), both of Military Officers Association of America, Alexandria, Virginia; and Brigadier General Leslie E. Beavers, USA (Ret.), National Association of State Directors of Veterans' Affairs, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded hearings to examine the current economic outlook for April 2005, after receiving testimony from Harvey S. Rosen, Chairman, and Kristen J. Forbes, Member, both of the Council of Economic Advisers.

RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES IN RUSSIA

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission): Commission concluded a hearing to examine problems experienced by unregistered religious communities operating within the Russian Federation, after receiving testimony from John V. Hanford, III, Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, Department of State; Lawrence A. Uzzell, International Religious Freedom Watch, Fishersville, Virginia; Paul Goble, University of Tartu, Estonia; Boris Perchatkin, American-Russian Relief Committee, Washington; Andrew Okhotin, Independent Christian Baptists, Massachusetts; Sergei Cherpanov, Jehovah's Witnesses, Russia.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2005

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No committee meetings are scheduled.